

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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R 112223 Z APR 73
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7450
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 1318

EXDIS

E. O. 11652 XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR UN VN
SUBJ: PRG LIAISON OFFICE AT UN

REF: USUN 1300

SUMMARY: GVN MISSION HAS FILLED IN DETAILS OF APRIL 10 EXCHANGES WITH UNSEC. IN DELIVERING AIDE MEMOIRE EXPRESSING GVN " RESERVATIONS" ABOUT UN MEMORANDUM ON HUMANITARIAN AID, GVN AMB CHI PRESSED UNDER SYG GUYER AND ASYG URQUHART FOR CLARIFICATION OF SYG' S INTENTIONS RE BOTH CONTINUING CONTACT WITH PRG AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR HUMANITARIAN AID. VIETNAMESE APPEAR SATISFIED THAT NY OFFICE FOR PRG IS DEAD ISSUE BUT ARE UNEASY ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTINUING CONTACT WITH PRG RE HUMANITARIAN AID. END SUMMARY.

1. COUNSELOR MAC (GVN MISSION) HAS FILLED US IN ON APR 10 EXCHANGES WITH UNDER SYG GUYER PRELIMINARY REPORTED REFTEL (USUN 1300). GVN AMB CHI AND COUNSELOR MAC RESPONDED TO SUMMONS BY GUYER NOON APRIL 10. GUYER GAVE CHI MEMORANDUH TRANSMITTED REFTEL PARA 2, CHARACTERIZING IT AS MERELY " A PIECE OF PAPER." HE TOLD CHI, HOWEVER, THAT IDENTICAL MEMORANDUM BEING GIVEN TO BOTH PRG AND DRV. MAC INFERRED THAT AUBRAC GAVE MEMORANDUM TO DRV AS WELL AS PRG IN PARIS. IN HANDLING MEMORANDUM TO CHI, GUYER STATED: ".4. AMBASSADOR, THIS MIGHT GIVE YOU WEAPONS FOR A NEW OFFENSIVE." GVN MISSION INTERPRETS GUYER' S HALF- JOKING COMMENT TO REFLECT (A) GUYER' S ASSUMPTION THAT CHI WLD PROTEST MEMORANDUM, CONSISTENT WITH EARLIER DEMARCHES TO SYG; (B) GUYER' S DISCOMFORT
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WITH WAS SYG IS HANDLING ISSUE.

2. AT VIETNAMESE INITIATIVE, CHI AND MAC CALLED ON GUYER AGAIN LATER AFTERNOON APR 10. URQUHART ALSO PRESENT. PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THIS MTG WAS TO PRESENT GUYER WITH AIDE MEMOIRE EXPRESSING GVN "RESERVATIONS" ABOUT MEMORANDUM. TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE RECORDED PARA 9 BELOW.

3. AT THIS LATE AFTERNOON MTG CHI ASKED FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF MEANING OF MEMORANDUM, ESPECIALLY EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANCE OF PHRASE " APPROPRIATE FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIP" TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN UN AND VIETNAMESE PARTIES. (PARA 3 OF MEMO REPORTED REFTEL). GUYER AND URQUHART, AFTER EMPHASIZING TO SOUTH VIETNAMESE THAT " PIECE OF PAPER" WAS NEITHER A NOTE NOR AN AIDE MEMOIRE TOLD CHI THAT THEY DID NOT KNOW WHAT KIND OF SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE WLD BE FORTHCOMING FROM PRG AND DRV OR, IN FACT, IF THERE WLD BE SUCH REQUESTS; (PARTICULARLY FROM DRV) AND THEREFORE THEY DID NOT KNOW WHAT KIND OF FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIP WLD BE ESTABLISHED.

4. CHI ASKED, IN CASE PRG & DRV DO MAKE REQUESTS, WOULD " APPROPRIATE FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIP" MEAN A " LIAISON OFFICE." GUYER SAID THAT THIS WLD NOT NECESSARILY BE A LIAISON OFFICE, BUT IT WLD BE " A CERTAIN LIAISON" TO ARRANGE PRACTICAL MATTERS. CHI PRESSED FURTHER TO FIND WHETHER GUYER'S REPLY ELIMINATED ANY IDEA OF OBSERVER MISSION OR LIAISON OFFICE. GUYER SAID THAT IF THERE IS TO BE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, THERE SHLD BE A CERTAIN FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIP, " DIFFERENT COMPLETELY FROM OBSERVER STATUS OR FROM LIAISON OFFICE STATUS." URQUHART ADDED: " YOU KNOW THAT NOW THERE IS NO QUESTION OF PRG COMING TO NEW YORK. THIS NOW IS JUST ACADEMIC." (COMMENT : MAC SAID VIETNAMESE HAD IMPRESSION FROM THIS THAT SYG HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE WLD BE NO US VISA FOR PRG OFFICIAL IN NY. WE EXPLAINED TO MAC THAT SINCE OUR CONSISTENT POSITION HAS BEEN THAT SYG WLD CONCLUDE THERE SHLD BE NO OBSERVER MISSION, VISA QUESTION WAS NOT AND WLD NOT BE AN ISSUE.) GUYER AND URQUHART TOGETHER REITERATED THAT THERE IS NO QUESTION OF PRG IN NY BUT THAT THERE CLD BE SOME CONTINUING CONTACT, FOR EXAMPLE, IN PARIS.

5. BOTH UNSEC OFFICIALS, IN RESPONSE TO CHI'S QUESTIONS ABOUT PROCEDURE, SAID THAT IT WLD BE IN UN INTEREST AND " VERY WISE" FOR SYG TO RAISE QUESTION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN ECOSOC
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AND ALSO IN GA, NOTING THAT U THANT TOOK SAME ACTION RE BANGLADESH. CHI POINTED OUT THAT IN CASE OF BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN WAS CONSULTED BEFORE ANY UN ASSISTANCE WAS DECIDED UPON. CHI ASKED WHETHER OR NOT SAME WLD APPLY IN THIS CASE AND WAS TOLD ANSWER WAS " OBVIOUSLY YES."

6. CHI SAID THAT IT IS PREMATURE NOW, IN ANY EVENT, TO THINK ABOUT LIAISON OFFICE FOR PRG OR ABOUT ASSISTANCE TO PRG. THIS WAS SO, HE SAID, BECAUSE: (A) DELICATE CONSULTATIONS ARE NOW

GOING ON IN PARIS WITH PRG: IN LEOPARD- SPOT CEASE- FIRE
SITUATION, ONE OF MAIN QUESTIONS BEING DISCUSSED IN PARIS IS
WHICH AREAS IN SOUTH VIETNAM ARE CONTROLLED BY EACH SIDE.
(B) ALSO, POLITICAL FUTURE OF VIETNAM IS BEING DISCUSSED
IN PARIS. SUPPOSE, CHI ASKED, THAT SIX MONTHS HENCE TWO
PARTIES AGREED THAT THERE WERE ONLY ONE REGIME AND ONE GOVERN-
MENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM. SUPPOSE PRG INTEFRATED INTO GOVERNMENT
IN SAIGON AND THERE WERE NO MORE PRG. TO WHOM WLD PRG ASSISTANCE
GO? IN THIS CONTEXT, CHI EMPHASIZED THAT GVN IS NOT OPPOSED TO
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, CITING FACT THAT GVN SUPPORTED AID TO
BANGLADESH EVEN THOUGH IT DID NOT RECOGNIZE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT.

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
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R 112223 Z APR 73
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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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7. GUYER AND URQUHART TOLD CHI THAT PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IS UN
ASSISTANCE, NOT TO " GOVERNMENTS," BUT TO INDIVIDUALS. UN MUST GO
THROUGH GOVERNMENTS OR OTHER ENTITIES BECAUSE THEY CONTROL AREAS
WHERE INDIVIDUALS LIVE. IF POLITICAL SITUATION CHANGES, UN WLD
WORK THROUGH WHATEVER ENTITIES REPLACE PRESENT ENTITIES IN
ORDER TO GET ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS. GUYER NOTED
HUMOROUSLY THAT UN CLD NOT " HAVE ARMORED DIVISION" ENSURING
THAT AID REC' D BY INDIVIDUALS.

8. IN ASSESSING SIGNIFICANCE OF APRIL 10 EXCHANGE WITH UNSEC
OFFICIALS, MAC TOLD US THAT MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN GVN VIEW
IS THAT GVN REASSURED THAT SYG MOST PROBABLY WLD PERMIT NO PRG
PRESENCE IN NY BUT THAT SYG IS PLANNING TO HAVE SOME KIND OF
AS YET NOT FULLY DEFINED CONTACT WITH PRG IN PARIS. CHI ADDED
THAT NEITHER GUYER NOR URQUHART SEEMED TO KNOW PRECISELY HOW THIS
CONTACT WLD EVEOLVE NOW THAT SYG HIMSELF IS IN EUROPE.

9. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF GVN AIDE MEMOIRE.

THE NOTE PRESENTED BY MR. ROBERTO E. GUYER, U. N.
UNDER- SECRETARY- GENERAL FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS, TO

AMBASSADOR NGUYEN HUU CHI, PERMANENT OBSERVER OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ON 1048) 10, 1973 CONCERNING U. N. ASSISTANCE TO THE " INTERESTED PARTIES" IN VIETNAM, CALLS ON THE PART OF THE PERMANENT OBSERVER OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM FOR THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS AND RESERVATIONS WHICH HE WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT TO THE HIGH ATTENTION OF THE SECRET

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SECRETARY GENERAL:

1. THE PRINCIPLE OF HUMANITARIAN AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF SOUTH VIETNAM IS STILL A MATTER OF DISCUSSION. IT IS ESPECIALLY DONDITIONED BY THE NEGOTIATIONS NOW PROCEEDING IN PARIS BETWEEN THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE I TERESTED PARTIES.

2. " THE APPROPRIATE FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIP" BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF SOUTH VIETNAM, AS MENTIONED IN THE ABOVE NOTE, STILL REMAINS TO BE DEFINED. EVEN IF A FORMAL RELATIONSHIP COULD BE SET UP, IT SHOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE COMMON PRACTICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND SHOULD BE NO MEANS BE CONTRARY TO THE WELL ESTABLISHED LEGAL PRINCIPLES THAT GOVERN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON OFFICES OR PERMANENT OBSERVERS' MISSIONS AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

MOREOVER, THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE OPENING OF A NLF LIAISON OFFICE OR OBSERVER' S MISSION AT THE U. N. REMAINS AS IT WAS DEFINED IN THE AIDE MEMOIRE PRESENTED BY THE PERMANENT OBSERVER OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO THE U. N. SECRETARY GENERAL ON MARCH 6, 1973.
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